United Nations S/PV.5728

Security Council

Sixty-second year

Provisional

5728th meeting

Friday, 3 August 2007, 11.25 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Gayama	(Congo)
Members:	Belgium	Mr. Kenes
	China	Mr. Li Kexin
	France	Mr. Lacroix
	Ghana	Mr. Christian
	Indonesia	Mr. Kleib
	Italy	Mr. Mantovani
	Panama	Mr. Arias
	Peru	Mr. Voto-Bernales
	Qatar	Mr. Al-Nasser
	Russian Federation	Mr. Shcherbak
	Slovakia	Mr. Matulay
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Johnston
	United States of America	Mr. Khalilzad

Agenda

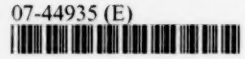
The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) (S/2007/392)

Letter dated 26 June 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council (S/2007/382)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A.

07-44935 (E)



The meeting was called to order at 11.25 a.m.

Expression of thanks to the retiring President

The President (*spoke in French*): As this is the first meeting of the Security Council for the month of August, I should like to take this opportunity to pay tribute, on behalf of the Council, to His Excellency Mr. Wang Guangya, Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations, for his service as President of the Security Council for the month of July 2007. I am sure that I speak for all members of the Council in expressing sincere appreciation to Ambassador Wang for the great diplomatic skill with which he conducted the Council's business last month.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) (S/2007/392)

Letter dated 26 June 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council (S/2007/382)

The President (*spoke in French*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received letters from the representatives of Israel and Lebanon, in which they request to be invited to participate in the consideration of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite those representatives to participate in the consideration of the item, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Carmon (Israel) and Ms. Ziade (Lebanon) took seats at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2007/392, containing the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). Members also have before them document S/2007/382, which contains the text of a letter dated 26 June 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council, transmitting the report of the Lebanon Independent Border Assessment Team.

After consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

> "The Security Council recalls its previous resolutions and statements on Lebanon. It welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of 28 June 2007 (S/2007/392). It reaffirms its strong support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized borders and under the sole and exclusive authority of its Government. The Council encourages efforts towards national reconciliation and political dialogue. It reiterates its full support for the legitimate and democratically elected Government of Lebanon, calls for full respect for the democratic institutions of the country, in conformity with its constitution, and condemns any effort to destabilize Lebanon. The Council also reiterates its full support for the efforts carried out by the Lebanese army to ensure security and stability throughout Lebanon and reaffirms that there should be no weapons or authority in Lebanon other than those of the Lebanese State.
>
> "The Security Council reiterates its attachment to the full implementation of all provisions of resolution 1701 (2006) and urges all concerned parties to cooperate fully with the Security Council and the Secretary-General to achieve a permanent ceasefire and a long-term solution as envisioned in the resolution. It also takes note of the Government of Lebanon's letter, in which it reaffirmed its commitment to the role of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and asked for the renewal of its mandate. The Council reaffirms its full support for UNIFIL, condemns all terrorist attacks against it and calls on all parties to abide by their obligation to respect the safety of United Nations personnel. It also emphasizes the need for UNIFIL to enhance its investigative capacity in

response to the attacks. The Council welcomes the tripartite arrangements referred to in the report, notes the commitments to reach an agreement on the northern part of Ghajar and encourages the parties to cooperate with UNIFIL to visibly mark the Blue Line. It expresses its deep concern at the increase in Israeli violations of Lebanese airspace and appeals to all parties concerned to respect the cessation of hostilities and the Blue Line in its entirety.

"The Security Council, in this context, expresses grave concern at persistent reports of breaches of the arms embargo along the Lebanon-Syria border. It expresses concern at any allegation of rearming of Lebanese and non-Lebanese armed groups and militias and reiterates that there should be no sale or supply of arms and related materiel to Lebanon except as authorized by its Government. In this regard, it expresses concern about the recent statement by Hizbullah that it retains the military capacity to strike all parts of Israel, and calls on all parties to refrain from statements and activities that could jeopardize the cessation of hostilities. The Council takes note of the detailed information conveyed by the Government of Lebanon about the dangerous activities of armed elements and groups, in particular PFLP-GC and Fatah-Intifada, and reiterates its call for the disbanding and disarmament of all militias and armed groups in Lebanon. It underscores the obligation of all Member States, in particular in the region, to take all necessary measures to implement paragraph 15 of resolution 1701 (2006) to enforce the arms embargo.

"The Security Council welcomes the recommendations of the Lebanon Independent Border Assessment Team (LIBAT) and looks forward to their implementation. It requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Government of Lebanon, to assess their implementation and to regularly update the Council on this issue in his regular reports on the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006), including, as appropriate and in coordination with the Government of Lebanon, on the basis of follow-up field visits. The Council welcomes the assistance provided by donors to help the Government of Lebanon to secure its borders and encourages further such assistance, including by continuing to provide equipment and border security experts. Underlining that Syria and Lebanon share responsibility for controlling their border, it notes that the Government of Syria has stated that it has taken measures, reiterates its call on that Government to take further measures to reinforce control at the border, and looks forward to additional proposals in this regard in light of the Secretary-General's visit to Syria. The Council also calls for enhanced cross-border cooperation to secure the Syrian-Lebanese border.

"The Security Council emphasizes the need for greater progress on all the principles and elements required for a permanent ceasefire and long-term solution identified in resolution 1701 (2006). The Council expresses deep concern that Hizbullah has not returned the two Israeli soldiers it abducted, or even provided proof of life, and calls for their immediate and unconditional return. It further encourages efforts to urgently settle the issue of Lebanese prisoners detained in Israel.

"The Council expresses deep concern at the presence of unexploded ordnance in southern Lebanon and renews its support for the request of the Secretary-General to Israel to provide to the United Nations detailed data on its use of cluster munitions in southern Lebanon.

"The Security Council, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolutions 1559 (2004), 1680 (2006) and 1701 (2006) on the delineation of the Syrian-Lebanese border, looks forward to the reactivation of the Syrian-Lebanese boundary committee. It takes note of the solid progress made by the cartographer towards a provisional determination of the geographical extent of the Shab'a farms and welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to engage in further discussions with the parties on the Shab'a farms area, including on its territorial definition, that will strengthen a diplomatic process aimed at resolving this key issue in accordance with the relevant provisions of resolution 1701 (2006). It also reiterates its appreciation for the process launched by the Secretary-General to investigate the implications of the interim proposal contained in the seven-point plan of the Government of Lebanon regarding the Shab'a farms area.

Recalling paragraph 62 of the report of the Secretary-General, the Council underlines that progress should also be made on all the other issues identified in operative paragraph 10 of resolution 1701 (2006). In this regard, the Security Council requests, pursuant to resolution 1701 (2006), that the Secretary-General continue to develop, in liaison with relevant actors and the concerned parties, proposals to implement the relevant provisions of the Taif Accords, and resolutions 1559 (2004) and 1680 (2006), including those relating to disarmament.

"The Security Council stresses the importance of, and the need to achieve, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions, including its resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2007/29.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 11.40 a.m.